

ASTRONOMER PROCTOR'S REMAINS.

The Proposed Interment of the Body by
George W. Childs.

PHILADELPHIA, June 28.—In the matter of the proposed interment of the body of the late distinguished astronomer, Richard A. Proctor, a misconception of the precise facts of the case appears to prevail. The remains of Prof. Proctor have never received actual burial. They are now, as they have been since the day of the funeral, in the private vault of the undertaker.

It was to this condition of affairs that Mr. William J. Bok invited public attention, accompanying his statement of it with the suggestion that the scientific and literary friends and admirers of the noted astronomer should contribute to give his body a final resting place and erect over it an appropriate monument. To this suggestion no practical answer was given, the subject having, apparently, awakened no public interest. It was under these circumstances that Mr. Bok called the attention of Mr. George W. Childs to the matter. Mr. Childs at once, with characteristic sympathy and public spirit, told Mr. Bok that he would willingly bear all the cost of a befitting interment for Prof. Proctor's remains and the erection of a suitable monument to his memory.

It was never intended, it is authoritatively stated, that the interment should be in the nature of a public display, or that formal addresses should be made, except such as are customary as a part of the religious ceremonial of a burial solemnity and reverently conducted by a clergyman. It is stated that Mr. Childs has not had, nor has he now, any knowledge or intimation of anything other than the removal of the remains from the undertaker's vault and the simplest services at the grave. Whatever Mr. Childs has done in respect to this matter has been done in strict accordance with the clearly expressed wishes of the late Prof. Proctor's surviving daughters, as they were communicated to him by them.